

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 28, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi,

For more than 40 years, the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program has played a critical role in supporting our local communities by providing critical resources to nearly 1,900 counties across 49 states to offset lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdictions. As 2016 comes to an end, we urge you to work in a bipartisan, bicameral fashion to ensure the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program is fully funded for FY 2017 and beyond.

For FY 2017, the U.S. Department of the Interior has estimated that \$480 million dollars will be necessary to fully fund PILT. If Congress fails to fully fund the PILT program by the end of the year, public lands counties across the nation will be unable to provide essential public services such as: law enforcement, search and rescue, public health and critical transportation infrastructure.

Current discretionary appropriations for the PILT program are set to expire on September 30, 2016. Without the certainty of full PILT funding for FY 2017, we risk severely crippling counties' ability to provide essential services for their residents and public lands visitors alike.

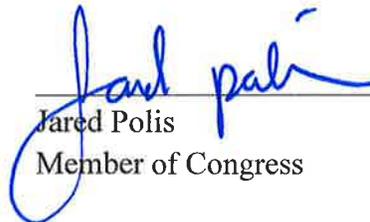
Moving forward, we hope Congress can work together to enact a fiscally responsible, long-term and sustainable solution to fully fund PILT in FY17 and beyond. As counties across the United States work to balance their budgets, it is essential that Congress act to reaffirm the federal government's long-standing commitment to public lands counties by fully funding PILT.

We look forward to working with you to end the financial uncertainty facing thousands of counties nationwide, and we thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress



Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer

Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar

Member of Congress



Jim Costa

Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham

Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema

Member of Congress



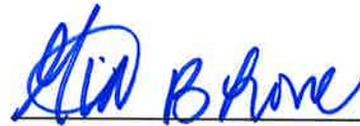
John Garamendi

Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene

Member of Congress



Mia Love

Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke

Member of Congress



Chuck Fleischmann

Member of Congress



Steven Pearce

Member of Congress



Mike Coffman

Member of Congress



Paul Cook

Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn

Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert

Member of Congress



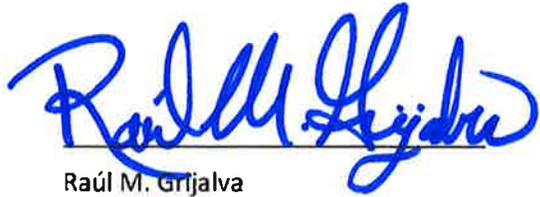
Jaime Herrera Beutler

Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones

Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva

Member of Congress



Dina Titus

Member of Congress



Don Young

Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici

Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman

Member of Congress



Joe Heck

Member of Congress



Evan Jenkins

Member of Congress



Mark E. Amodei

Member of Congress



Robert Aderholt

Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Member of Congress



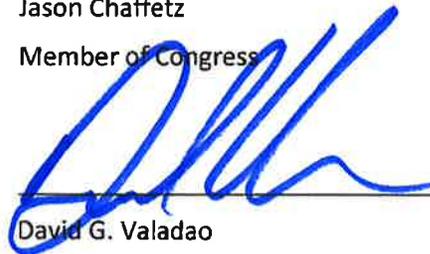
Jason Chaffetz

Member of Congress



Dan Benishek

Member of Congress



David G. Valadao

Member of Congress



Rob Bishop

Member of Congress

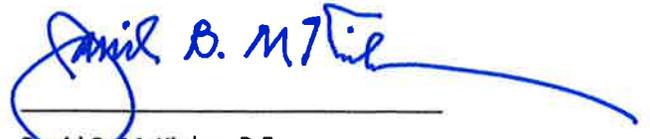


Curt Clawson

Member of Congress



Michael Simpson  
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



Steven Palazzo  
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Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



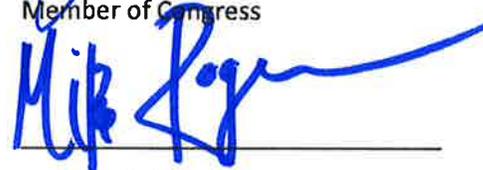
Doug LaMalfa  
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Juan Vargas  
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Adam Smith  
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Mike Rogers  
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Mike Thompson  
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Carlos Curbelo  
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Gregg Harper  
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Martha McSally  
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Lois Capps  
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Steve Knight  
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Diana DeGette  
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Cresent Hardy  
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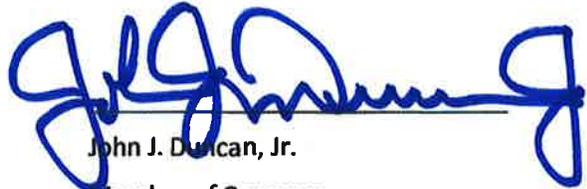
Kristi Noem  
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader  
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Matt Salmon  
Member of Congress



John J. Duncan, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer  
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Rick Nolan  
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Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress



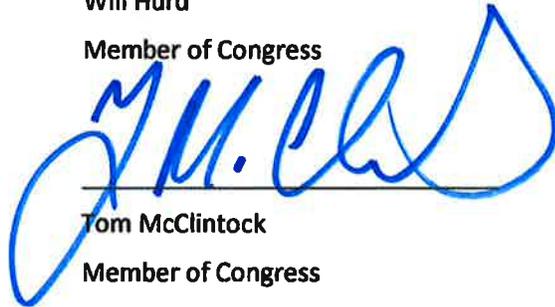
Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



Will Hurd  
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy  
Member of Congress



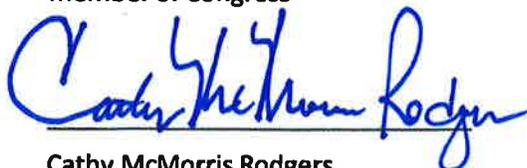
Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Denny Heck  
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



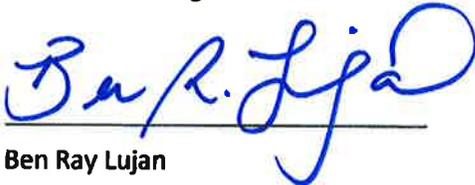
Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



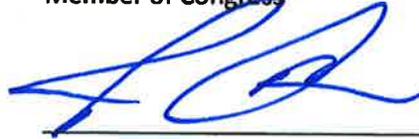
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



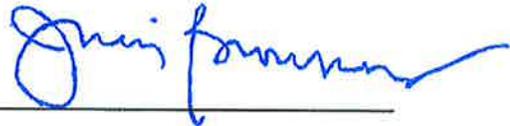
Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



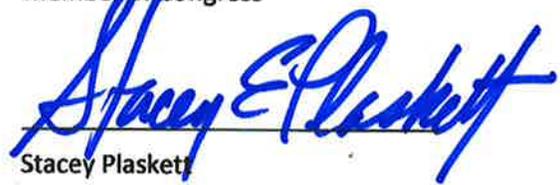
Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Stacey Plaskett  
Member of Congress



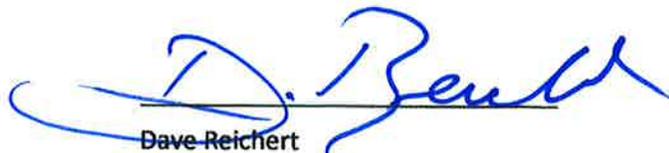
Cynthia Lummis  
Member of Congress



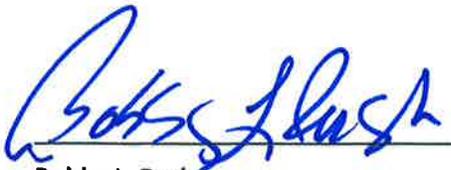
Scott R. Tipton  
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush

Member of Congress



Mark Pocan

Member of Congress



Trent Franks

Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez

Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson

Member of Congress



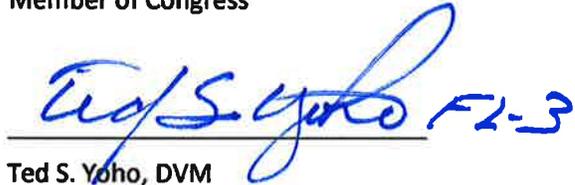
Joe Wilson

Member of Congress



Roger Williams

Member of Congress



Ted S. Yoho, DVM

Member of Congress



Andy Barr

Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith

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Raul Ruiz

Member of Congress



Bob Goodlatte

Member of Congress



Madeleine Bordallo

Member of Congress